

11-2004

Developing Articulation Agreements - Presentation Notes

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Scholarly Commons Citation

Lehrer, H., & Bowen, B. D. (2004). Developing Articulation Agreements - Presentation Notes. , (). Retrieved from <https://commons.erau.edu/ni-s4a-articulation-agreements/3>

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Developing Articulation Agreements

Tribal Colleges and Universities Geospatial Curriculum Conference

By

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The Basic Steps

- Who: What institutions will be partners in the agreement?
 - TCU and university-system, individual college/university, or specific academic department
- Why: What are the reasons for doing an agreement articulation?
 - There must be a win-win for all parties involved
- How: What is the mechanism that is to be used?
 - One-time agreement or yearly revisions?

Overarching Reasons

- To provide new educational options
- To strengthen the cooperative bond between two schools
- To eliminate redundancy, loss of credit, delay and confusion for students
- To inspire students to aspire to higher educational goals

How to Begin

- Decide what academic program at your school would benefit by having an articulation agreement
- Consider a 4 year institution that has an academic program that could provide upper level study
- At first blush, are the two programs complimentary or competitive?
- If complimentary, proceed!

The View from the University

- The bulk of general education should occur at the 100-200 level
- Basic technical skills are taught at the 100 and 200 level
- Upper level courses deal with advanced content/applications and/or management and supervisory operations
- There should be no remediation needed for a transfer student

Who do you talk to first?

- At UNO, the department is the major academic unit so start there
- Begin with a phone visit to establish mutual interests (but do your homework before the call!!!!)

- Follow with a personal visit to campus and be sure to bring your catalogue (many agreements are made just through catalogue review) but have a plan
- Invite university administrators and faculty to your school
- Establish the middle ground!

A Course Matrix in the Major

| TCU Offering | Content | University Required | Content |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| ACH 124 | Basic knowledge.... | TAG 136 | A Match |
| DST 156 | Applications of ... | TEC 228 | Partial |
| ACH 222 | Basic | SIV 335 | Problem |
| ?????? | Problem | SDV 145 | Study of |
| DVD 124 | Tribal | ?????? | Problem |

Where do you go from here?

- This is where the real work comes in because you must:
 - Determine where there are matches and mismatches
 - Resolve any conflicts
 - Eliminate redundancy
 - Work to ensure a seamless instructional path for the student
 - Be sure that the academic integrity of all programs is protected

Some Observations

- Each partnership agreement will be different
- Strive to forge a Letter of Agreement or a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) ASAP
- Be ready to meet in the middle
- Remember, this is all about the students; leave your egos at the door

Comments from Various Institutions

- “We are recognizing the quality of their faculty and courses”
- “Our partner has the same high academic standards as our institution”
- “The quality of course content and the rigor must be the same”
- “Articulations are a written contractual agreement between two accredited institutions, are degree and catalogue specific, and must be updated yearly”

Original Date: 11/28/04